



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities

Two Gateway Center

Newark, NJ 07102

www.bpu.state.nj.us

Customer Assistance

Macey Bullock,

Petitioner,

V.

New Jersey-American Water Company,

Respondent.

ORDER ADOPTING INITIAL DECISION

BPU Docket No. WC02030201U
OAL Docket No. PUC 4044-02

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On March 25, 2002, Macey Bullock (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board), alleging that New Jersey-American Water Company (Respondent) mistakenly billed him for twice his amount of water usage and illegally shut off his water service. On May 7, 2002, the Respondent filed an answer denying the allegations.

On May 16, 2002, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Elinor R. Reiner.

During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and executed a Stipulation of Settlement. The settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On December 24, 2002, ALJ Reiner filed her Initial Decision with the Board, recommending that the settlement be approved. The ALJ found the settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

The settlement provides that Petitioner will receive a credit on his account in the amount of \$200.00 and will pay the balance due on his account within 60 days or face the standard consequences for failure to pay an outstanding amount due and owing.

After review, the Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 2/6/03

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

SIGNED

JEANNE M. FOX
PRESIDENT

SIGNED

FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER

SIGNED

CAROL J. MURPHY
COMMISSIONER

SIGNED

CONNIE O. HUGHES
COMMISSIONER

SIGNED

JACK ALTER
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SIGNED

KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

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SERVICE LIST

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